RETIREMENT CEREMONY

RADM Gayle D. Shaffer
DC, USN

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Friday, July 8, 2022
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Welcome to the retirement ceremony honoring
Rear Admiral Gayle D. Shaffer, Dental Corps, USN

The ceremony you witness today is a time-honored tradition of rich Naval heritage and the Nation's expression of appreciation for a job "Well Done".

It is the recognition of a career of unselfish dedication, devotion to duty, family separation, and unswerving service to one's country. It is a day of great significance, marking the culmination and recognition of a rewarding life within the Naval service of the United States of America.

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Master of Ceremonies
Captain Robert Hawkins, NC, USN

Arrival of Official Party
Rear Admiral Gayle D. Shaffer, DC, USN
Rear Admiral Bruce L. Gillingham, MC, USN

Parading of the Colors
Naval District Washington Color Guard

National Anthem
Quantico Marine Corps Band Brass Quintet

Invocation
Captain Raymond J. Houk, CHC, USN

Presiding Officer Remarks
Rear Admiral Bruce L. Gillingham, MC, USN

Presentation of Award

Thirteen Folds of the American Flag
Commander Jeremy O. Biehn, MSC, USN
U.S. Marine Corps Headquarters & Service Battalion
Headquarters Marine Corps

Retiree Remarks
Rear Admiral Gayle D. Shaffer, DC, USN

"The Watch"
Lieutenant Commander Temitope O. Ayeni, MSC, USN

Benediction
Captain Raymond J. Houk, CHC, USN

Reading of Orders

Playing of Armed Forces Medley

Piping Ashore

Reception
All guests are cordially invited to the reception
immediately following the ceremony

Rear Admiral Bruce L. Gillingham

U.S. Navy Surgeon General

Rear Adm. Bruce L. Gillingham is a native of San Diego. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Cultural Anthropology (with high honors) from the University of California, San Diego and a Doctor of Medicine from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. He is an inductee in the medical honor society of Alpha Omega Alpha.

Gillingham completed a surgical internship and an orthopedic residency at Naval Medical Center San Diego. He also completed subspecialty training as a pediatric orthopedic surgeon at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada in 1995. He qualified as an undersea and diving medical officer.

He has served in various positions throughout Navy Medicine to include director of Pediatric Orthopedic and Scoliosis Surgery; Associate Orthopedic Residency Program director; and director of Surgical Services. While assigned to Naval Medical Center San Diego, he was instrumental in establishing the Comprehensive Combat and Complex Casualty Care Center (C5).

Operationally, he served aboard the hospital ship USNS Mercy (T-AH-19) as staff orthopedic surgeon and as director of surgical services. He deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II as battalion chief of Professional Services (Forward) for the 1st Force Service Support Group and officer in charge of the Surgical Shock Trauma Platoon, achieving a 98 percent combat casualty survival rate while providing echelon II surgical care during Operation Phantom Fury.

Gillingham also served as deputy chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Readiness & Health; commander, Navy Medicine West; commander, Naval Medical Center San Diego; deputy commander, Naval Medical Center Portsmouth; commanding officer, Naval Hospital Jacksonville, Florida; Pacific Fleet surgeon, and Fleet surgeon and director, Health Services, U.S. Fleet Forces. While in the Pacific, he led efforts to assist the Vietnam People's Navy in creating an Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical program, and in the re-location of Navy Medical Research Unit-2 to Singapore. In 2011, he served as the Joint Support Force-Japan Surgeon in the aftermath of the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster, ensuring the safety of over 200,000 U.S. citizens, service members and families.

He is a diplomat of the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery, a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, and the American Orthopedic Association and a member of the Pediatric Orthopedic Society of North America, American College of Physician Executives, Society of Military Orthopedic Surgeons and Association of Military Surgeons of the United States. He has published over 30 scientific articles and book chapters.

Gillingham's personal awards include the Legion of Merit (seven awards), Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal with the Eagle Globe, and Anchor device with bronze star and the Fleet Marine Force ribbon.

Rear Admiral Gayle D. Shaffer

U.S. Navy Deputy, Surgeon General

Rear Adm. Gayle Shaffer earned a Bachelor of Science from the University of South Alabama and a Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from the University of Alabama School of Dentistry. She earned a certificate in Comprehensive Dentistry from the Naval Postgraduate Dental School and holds a master's in health sciences from George Washington University. She received her commission as an ensign in 1989.

At sea, Shaffer served onboard USS Puget Sound (AD-38), completing two Mediterranean deployments. Ashore, her assignments include Naval Hospital Great Lakes; Great Lakes Naval Dental Center; clinic director, 2nd Dental Battalion, Camp Lejeune and Branch Dental Clinic, Naval Air Facility, Atsugi, Japan. She served as director, General Practice Residency, department head, Hospital Dentistry Division, and director for Branch Health Clinics, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland.

Shaffer served as executive officer, 1st Dental Battalion/Naval Dental Center, Camp Pendleton and U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa. She also served as commanding officer, Naval Hospital Jacksonville, Florida.

As an Individual Augmentee, Shaffer deployed as officer-in-charge of the Expeditionary Medical Facility, Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti in support of Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa and Operation Enduring Freedom. She also deployed as commanding officer, NATO Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit, Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel and Resolute Support, Train, Advise, Assist Command-South.

Her staff assignments include assistant deputy chief, Medical Operations, U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery; executive assistant to Navy deputy surgeon general, U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery; liaison officer to the Defense Health Agency; director, Health Services, Headquarters Marine Corps and Medical Officer of the Marine Corps; deputy chief, Operations, Plans and Readiness, U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery; and 38th chief of the Navy Dental Corps.

Shaffer maintains board certification in the American Board of General Dentistry, and is a fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry and International College of Dentists.

Shaffer began serving as the Navy deputy surgeon general and deputy chief, U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Feb. 28, 2020.

Shaffer's awards are the result of being surrounded by incredible shipmates and they include the Legion of Merit (two awards), Meritorious Service Medal (four awards) and various unit and campaign awards.

The Watch

For 33 years
This sailor has stood the watch
While some of us were in our bunks at night
This sailor stood the watch

While some of us were in school learning our trade
This shipmate stood the watch

Yes.. even before some of us were born into this world
This shipmate stood the watch

In those years when the storm clouds of war were seen brewing on the horizon of history
This shipmate stood the watch

Many times she would cast an eye ashore and see her family standing there
Needing her guidance and help
Needing that hand to hold during those hard times
But she still stood the watch

She stood the watch for 33 years
She stood the watch so that we, our families and
Our fellow countrymen could sleep soundly in safety, Each and every night
Knowing that a sailor stood the watch

Today we are here to say
'Shipmate... the watch stands relieved
Relieved by those You have trained ,Guided, and Led
Shipmate you stand relieved.. we have the watch..."

"Boatswain..Standby to pipe the side...Shipmate's going Ashore.."

NAVY MEDICINE

ROLL

TIDE

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Rear Admiral Shaffer extends her sincere appreciation to all involved in this ceremony and also for your presence in sharing the day with her.

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